

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 158677

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, GR, TU, US

SUBJECT: DE CUELLAR VISIT TO WASHINGTON

1. SUMMARY: IN CONVERSATIONS WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS
JUNE 27, UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR CYPRUS PEREZ
DE CUELLAR VOICED MARKED PESSIMISM AS TO PROSPECTS FOR MOVE
MENT TOWARD CYPRUS SETTLEMENT WITHOUT FURTHER US INITIA-
TIVES. GREEK CYPRIOTS, HE NOTED, WERE INSISTENT THAT NEXT
MOVE WAS UP TO ANKARA; NEITHER DENKTASH NOR TURKISH MILI-
TARY HAD ANY INTEREST IN SOLUTION; AND NOTHING COULD AT
PRESENT BE ACHIEVED IN INTERCOMMUNAL FORUM. ONLY MEANING-
FUL NEXT STEP WAS SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION. COUNSELOR
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NIMETZ UNDERScoreD TO DE CUELLAR CONTINUING US INTEREST
IN PROMOTING SETTLEMENT, BUT CAUTIONED THAT NO DECISION
HAD YET BEEN REACHED ON SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION. HE AD-
VISED DE CUELLAR TO KEEP EXISTING NEGOTIATING CHANNEL OPEN.
END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH COUNSELOR NIMETZ, EUR ASSISTANT

SECRETARY VEST, AND IO ACTING DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HELMAN, IN WHICH AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD PARTICIPATED, DE CUELLAR REVIEWED CURRENT STATUS OF CYPRUS TALKS AND OUTLINED POSSIBLE STEPS FOR NEAR-TERM FUTURE. HE REPORTED

THAT JUNE 27 MEETING BETWEEN WALDHEIM AND VISITING PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES KYPRIANOU HAD HARDLY BEEN ENCOURAGING. KYPRIANOU HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT AS FAR AS GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE CONCERNED NEXT MOVE WAS SOLELY UP TO NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT -- ONCE IT WAS FINALLY IN OFFICE. HE HAD STRESSED THAT THERE WERE LIMITS TO GREEK CYPRIOT PATIENCE, AND THAT BITTER DEBATE COULD BE EXPECTED AT NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF NO PROGRESS WERE MADE IN INTERIM. KYPRIANOU HAD GONE ON TO VOICE OPINION THAT DENKTASH WAS MERE PUPPET WHO CARRIED LITTLE WEIGHT AND WAS NOT FIT NEGOTIATING PARTNER FOR MAKARIOS; IN FUTURE, MAKARIOS-ECEVIT MEETING MIGHT BE NECESSARY. (THIS, OF COURSE, WAS PRIOR TO JULY 3 VOTE). DE CUELLAR REPORTED THAT WALDHEIM HAD BEEN GENUINELY DISAPPOINTED AT KYPRIANOU'S ATTITUDE. WHILE INTRIGUED AT SUGGESTION OF MAKARIOS-ECEVIT MEETING, HE FELT THAT THIS WAS UNREALISTIC IN THAT ANKARA WOULD NEVER CONSENT TO DOWNGRADING OF DENKTASH. DE CUELLAR ADDED THAT KYPRIANOU HAD MADE NO MENTION IN CONVERSATION WITH WALDHEIM OF HIS DECLARED SUPPORT FOR SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS, AND EXPRESSED AGREEMENT WITH AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD

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THAT KYPRIANOU FAVORED THIS IDEA PRIMARILY FOR ITS DOMESTIC ADVANTAGE. (SEE SEPTTEL FOR ACCOUNT OF KYPRIANOU DISCUSSION IN WASHINGTON.)

3. DE CUELLAR SAID THAT HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH CYPRIOT NEGOTIATORS PAPADOPOULOS AND ONAN EARLY IN JULY, BUT WAS NOT OPTIMISTIC AS TO CHANCES FOR ANY FORWARD MOVEMENT IN THIS FORUM. WALDHEIM HIMSELF WAS PREPARED TO PRESIDE (EVEN IN NICOSIA) OVER CYPRUS TALKS IF SERIOUS PROPOSALS WERE PUT FORWARD. NEITHER SIDE, HOWEVER, WAS INTERESTED AT THIS STAGE IN GENUINE NEGOTIATIONS. DE CUELLAR SPECULATED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF FUNCTIONING AS MEDIATOR CARRYING PROPOSALS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN TWO SIDES, BUT STRESSED AT SAME TIME LIMITATION ON UN INVOLVEMENT. UNDERSCORING CRUCIAL ROLE OF US IN PURSUIT OF A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT, DE CUELLAR DREW CONCLUSION THAT ONLY LOGICAL NEXT STEP WAS SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION TO EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, WHICH HE ENVISAGED AS TAKING PLACE IN LATE AUGUST OR EARLY SEPTEMBER. IN HIS VIEW, ALL PARTIES LOOKED TO THIS AS ONLY MEANS TO GET TALKS MOVING. WHEN ASKED WHAT THE PURPOSES OF SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION WOULD BE, DE CUELLAR SAID IT COULD SERVE AS VEHICLE TO SECURE SOMETHING POSITIVE

FROM THE TURKS AND TO PERSUADE THEM IN GENERAL OF THE MERITS OF COLLABORATING TOWARDS A SOLUTION. HE VOICED OPINION THAT TURKISH RELUCTANCE TO ADVANCE WORKABLE PROPOSALS WAS NOT DUE TO FAILURE TO STUDY SITUATION PROPERLY.

RATHER THIS REFLECTED ANTIPATHY OF DENKTASH AND, MORE SIGNIFICANTLY, OF TURKISH MILITARY TOWARDS ANY SOLUTION.

4. COUNSELOR NIMETZ STRESSED TO DE CUELLAR THAT US REMAINED INTERESTED IN PROMOTING A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT, BUT THAT THERE WAS NOT MUCH WE COULD DO UNTIL NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT WAS IN PLACE. HE SAID THAT AT PRESENT WE HAD NO PLANS FOR SECOND CLIFFORD MISSION; WE WOULD FIRST HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT THIS WOULD SEEK TO ACCOMPLISH AND WHETHER
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IT COULD IN CIRCUMSTANCES BE PRODUCTIVE. NIMETZ ADVISED THAT, IN MEANTIME, PRESENT NEGOTIATING CHANNEL BE KEPT OPEN SO THAT SETTLEMENT PROCESS COULD BE RESUMED WITHOUT PROCEDURAL HASSLE WHEN SERIOUS PROPOSALS WERE ADVANCED.

5. DISCUSSION BETWEEN DE CUELLAR AND HELMAN FOCUSED MAINLY ON THIS FALL'S UNGA CONSIDERATION OF CYPRUS AND ON SIZE, COST AND EFFECTIVENESS OF UNFICYP. DE CUELLAR THOUGHT GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD MOUNT A MAJOR ATTACK ON TURKEY IN 32ND UNGA IF NO MOVEMENT WAS UNDER WAY IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT UN MEMBERS FOUND CYPRUS QUESTION INCREASINGLY TEDIOUS, AND THIS WOULD WORK AGAINST GREEK CYPRIOTS AS INITIATORS OF THE DEBATE, BUT FELT THAT SERIOUS ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS WERE ONLY WAY TO AVOID FULL-SCALE DEBATE THIS FALL. HE AGREED WITH HELMAN THAT CYPRUS AMBASSADOR ROSSIDES INJECTED NEEDLESS CONFRONTATION AND CONFUSION INTO UN DISCUSSIONS OF CYPRUS, AND THOUGHT THERE WAS SOME CHANCE ROSSIDES MIGHT SOON BE REMOVED.

6. HELMAN SAID THAT CONGRESS WAS BEGINNING TO QUESTION THE DISPROPORTIONATE US CONTRIBUTION TO UNFICYP, NOW AMOUNTING TO 47 OF TOTAL MONETARY CONTRIBUTIONS, AND ASK HARD QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SIZE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE FORCE. HE WONDERED WHETHER ANY SIGNIFICANT REDUCTIONS IN UNFICYP'S BUDGET MIGHT BE POSSIBLE. DE CUELLAR SAID THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT UNFICYP'S MOUNTING DEFICIT, AND CONTINUES TO INSIST THAT WAYS BE FOUND TO REDUCE THE FORCE. BUT, HE REMARKED, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO GET AN ADMISSION FROM A MILITARY MAN THAT HIS DEFENSE LINE COULD BE THINNER. DE CUELLAR NOTED THAT SOME MONEY WOULD BE SAVED BY REPLACING THE FINNS WITH THE IRISH, AND THOUGHT IT MIGHT ALSO BE POSSIBLE TO DISPATCH A SMALLER
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IRISH CONTINGENT THAN HAD BEEN PLANNED. HELMAN COMMENTED THAT UNFICYP SERVED ESSENTIALLY AS A TRIP WIRE; IT WOULD THEREFORE SEEM THAT A SMALL, MOBILE FORCE COULD DO THE JOB. AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD SUGGESTED THAT ONE APPROACH TO REDUCTION MIGHT BE TO IDENTIFY STABILIZED AREAS OUTSIDE NICOSIA, WHERE NO INCIDENTS HAD OCCURRED OVER A PERIOD OF

TIME, AND WHERE IT SHOULD ACCORDINGLY BE POSSIBLE TO DIS-ESTABLISH STATIC POSITIONS.

7. DE CUELLAR VOLUNTEERED TO RECOMMEND TO WALDHEIM THAT HE FIND A WAY TO REDUCE SIGNIFICANTLY UNFICYP'S COST. HE SAID HE WOULD USE THE ARGUMENT THAT THIS WOULD HELP THE ADMINISTRATION DEFEND ITS BUDGET REQUEST TO CONGRESS SINCE ECONOMIES HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT AT US REQUEST. HE ASKED WHAT THE TIME FRAME SHOULD BE FOR INITIATION OF ANY SUCH REDUCTION. HELMAN REPLIED THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES' VISIT TO CYPRUS, JULY 22-24, MIGHT BE A GOOD TARGET DATE. HE ADDED THAT MAYNES (WHO WAS OUT OF TOWN ON DAY OF DE CUELLAR'S VISIT,) WAS MOST INTERESTED IN THE UNFICYP OPERATION, AND WOULD BE LOOKING FORWARD TO REVIEWING WITH DE CUELLAR IN NICOSIA MANY OF THE ISSUES JUST DISCUSSED. VANCE

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